

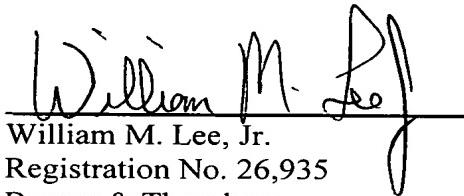
Remarks

The above amendments are being made in order to eliminate claims 12 and 13 and the related subject matter in the specification before calculation of the national filing fee for the United States.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

December 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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